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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/532,810	04/26/2005	Kenji Kuwayama	052503	9420
38834 7590 12/21/2007 WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP 1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW SUITE 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20036			EXAMINER BARAN, MARY C	
			ART UNIT 2857	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 12/21/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/532,810

Applicant(s)

KUWAYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Mary C. Baran

Art Unit

2857

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 April 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The action is responsive to the Amendment filed on 19 October 2007. Claims 1-20 are pending. Claim 1 is amended.
2. The amendments filed 22 January 2007 are sufficient to overcome the prior claim objections.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tsuboi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,263,380) (hereinafter Tsuboi).

Referring to claim 1, Tsuboi teaches a measurement electronic device system (see Tsuboi, column 6 lines 43-48) comprising:

a plurality of measurement electronic device units each having a measurement detector connected thereto and having a measuring function (see Tsuboi, column 6 lines 43-56 and Figure 1), the plural measurement electronic device units being connected in series by connectors to be capable of mutually conveying measurement

data and signals (see Tsuboi, column 13 lines 58-64), and one of the plural measurement electronic device units serving as a parent device having a function of transmitting/receiving measurement data and signals to/from an external device (see Tsuboi, column 7 lines 11-18),

wherein each of said plural measurement electronic device units has a memory storing a measured value (see Tsuboi, column 8 lines 49-61), and said parent device has a means for issuing a measured value save command to said plural measurement electronic device units including the own unit (see Tsuboi, column 13 lines 53-57), in response to a request from the external device (see Tsuboi, column 14 lines 13-19), to thereby cause said plural measurement electronic device units to simultaneously save measured values by the respective detectors in the memories (see Tsuboi, column 14 lines 20-26), but does not teach a save command which causes a plurality of measurement electronic device units to simultaneously save measured values by the respective detectors in the memories.

Teradaira teaches issuing a save command which causes a plurality of measurement electronic device units to simultaneously save measured values by the respective detectors in the memories (see Teradaira, column 6 lines 20-25).

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Tsuboi to include the teachings of Teradaira because issuing a single save command to store data would have allowed the skilled artisan to store the data simultaneously which saves processing time and allows the user to synchronize measurement.

Referring to claim 2, Tsuboi teaches that said measurement electronic device unit as the parent device has a means for causing all said measurement device units including the own unit which are connected in series to save the measured values by the respective detectors in the memories, also in response to an externally supplied measured value save command (see Tsuboi, column 7 lines 22-30 and column 10 lines 17-27).

Referring to claims 3 and 8, Tsuboi teaches that said measurement electronic device unit as the parent device has a means for selectively changing connection of a signal line connected to the other measurement electronic device units to one of a signal line from an external device and a signal line of an internal output (see Tsuboi, column 9 lines 4-6).

Referring to claims 4, 9 and 10, Tsuboi teaches that each of said measurement electronic device units except the parent device has a means for disconnecting mutually coupled signal lines to change connection to a signal line from an external part (see Tsuboi, column 14 lines 3-19).

Referring to claims 5 and 11-13, Tsuboi teaches that each of said plural measurement electronic device units includes: a storing means for storing an operation parameter (see Tsuboi, column 8 lines 55-61 and column 10 lines 5-12); and an

arithmetic means for performing an arithmetic operation on the measured value saved in the memory, based on the parameter stored in the storing means (see Tsuboi, column 11 lines 11-15).

Referring to claims 6 and 14-16, Tsuboi teaches that said measurement electronic device unit as the parent device further includes a sum calculating means for calculating a sum of individual operation results calculated by the arithmetic means in the measurement electronic device units designated out of said plural measurement electronic device units (see Tsuboi, column 11 lines 11-15).

Referring to claims 7 and 17-20, Tsuboi teaches that each of said plural measurement electronic device units (see Tsuboi, Figure 1) comprises: a main body housing the connector for mutual series connection and said respective means (see Tsuboi, column 13 lines 58-64)); and a display unit attachable/detachable to/from the main body, the display unit including: a display displaying the measured value and the parameter; and operation keys (see Tsuboi, column 8 lines 26-31), and the main body and the display unit including connectors that directly connect the main body and that allow the main body and the display unit to be electrically connected via a connecting line when the display unit is detached from the main body (see Tsuboi, Figure 1 and column 6 lines 44-48).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mary C. Baran whose telephone number is (571) 272-2211. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eliseo Ramos-Feliciano can be reached on (571) 272-7925. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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Mary Catherine Baran
14 December 2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carol S.W. Tsai'.

CAROL S.W. TSAI
PRIMARY EXAMINER